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News Release

New Jersey man charged with new child sex tourism violations involving eight additional victims in Cuba, Moldova and Romania

PHILADELPHIA – United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan today announced the filing of a superseding indictment against **Anthony Mark Bianchi**, of North Wildwood, New Jersey (d.o.b. 7/26/62).

The indictment charges the defendant with one count of conspiracy with Ion Gusin (who is being charged in the Republic of Moldova) to engage in illicit sexual conduct in foreign places, five counts of traveling with the intent to engage in illicit sexual conduct, four counts of engaging in illicit sexual conduct in foreign places and two counts of using a facility in foreign commerce to entice a minor to engage in sexual activity.

From December 2003 through until at least October 17, 2005, the defendant allegedly conspired to travel to from Philadelphia International Airport to Cuba, the Republic of Moldova and Romania to engage in illicit sexual conduct with males less than 16 years of age. The defendant also allegedly used the telephone in an attempt to obtain illicit sexual activity from Romanian male and a Moldovan male, both less than 16 years of age.

If convicted, Bianchi faces 360 years imprisonment, a mandatory minimum sentence of five years, five years supervised release, a \$3,000,000 fine and a \$1,200 special assessment

"The indictment alleges that this defendant was a sexual predator who thought that by targeting young victims overseas he could put some distance between himself and law enforcement," said Meehan.

"The growing number of child victims we are discovering in the case is truly disturbing. I want to emphasize that Americans who sexually abuse children abroad will face serious consequences at home," said John Kelleghan, acting Special Agent-in-Charge for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Philadelphia.

The superseding indictment is the result of continuing cooperation between Agents from the Philadelphia Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE), the ICE Attaché in Vienna, Austria, The ICE Cyber Crimes Center in Virginia in conjunction with the Romanian

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Organized Crime Police, the Romanian Prosecutor's Office, Moldovan Police assigned to the Ministry of Internal Affairs/Center for Combating Trafficking in Persons, and Polish Border Police. The U.S. Diplomatic Security Service, the Justice Department's Child Exploitation & Obscenity Section, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, the Cape May County Prosecutor's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office in Camden provided critical assistance to the investigation.

This case has been assigned to Assistant United States Attorneys Michael L. Levy and Kenya S. Mann.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.

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